

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 08274 131326Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 OIC-02
/060 W

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O P 131301Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8238
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
CINC USAF RAMSTEIN
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08274

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, AWACS, GW
SUBJECT: FRG VIEWS ON NATO AWACS

REFS: A. STATE 106522 DTG 110449Z MAY 77;
B. BONN 7260 DTG 271628Z APR 77 (NOTAL)

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1. IN DELIVERING SECDEF BROWN'S LETTER TO MINISTER LEBER
(REF A), EMBOFF TOOK THE OCCASION TO ASK ABOUT MINISTER
LEBER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTER BOURGES
CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF THE NATO AEW PROGRAM. DR. MARTIN
BLOCH, LEBER'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT, TOLD US THAT MINISTER
BOURGES HAD TOLD LEBER THAT FRANCE DID NOT BELIEVE THE
EPG SHOULD TAKE UP AWACS. FRANCE, ITSELF, WOULD NOT

JOIN IN ANY MULTILATERAL AWACS PROGRAM. FINALLY, FRANCE MIGHT BE WILLING TO DEPLOY AN AWACS AIRCRAFT BUT ONLY UNDER FRENCH NATIONAL COMMAND. DR. BLOCH WAS LOATHE TO GO INTO FURTHER DETAILS, STATING MINISTER LEBER WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER PERSONALLY WITH SECDEF BROWN AT THE FORTHCOMING DPC MEETING.

2. IN A SEPARATE DISCUSSION WITH ANOTHER FMOD OFFICIAL, HOWEVER WE WERE TOLD THAT BOURGES HAD INDICATED A DESIRE THAT FRANCE BE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATO AEW PROGRAM. WHEN WE EXPRESSED SURPRISE, NOTING THAT FRANCE HAD BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE ON MANY OCCASIONS, OUR SOURCE AGREED BUT REPEATED THAT THIS HAD BEEN A BOURGES COMMENT. HE WENT ON TO STATE THAT BOURGES HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT ANY TYPE OF FRENCH PARTICIPATION WAS CONTINGENT UPON THE NATO AEW BEING EQUIPPED WITH THE FRENCH ENGINE.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: THESE SNIPPETS OF INFORMATION ARE NEITHER COMPLETE, CONSISTENT, NOR SATISFYING. NEVERTHELESS, WE TRANSMIT THEM IN HOPES THAT THEY WILL BE OF SOME USE TO EMBASSY PARIS OR TO SECRETARY BROWN IN PREPARING FOR THE DPC MINISTERIAL. END COMMENT. STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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